



The American Academy

Together, let's do something about it.™

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Supporting Dropout Recovery Programs

The purpose of this legislation is to create a framework for dropout recovery programs that provides school districts with the flexibility required to effectively serve students who, for a variety of reasons, have already dropped out or who are at-risk of dropping out of school. Included in HB 5267/SB 969 are accountability measures designed to ensure that funding is available based on measurable student performance.

HB 5267/SB 969:

- Allows school districts to directly work with a dropout recovery expert organization.
- Defines "dropout recovery program" to include all effective formats- including online, brick-and-mortar, and hybrid programs in the definition.
- Ties funding of dropout recovery programs to monthly performance rather than October and February count periods.
- Creates 12 monthly enrollment periods to allow students to resume their education when they are ready.
- Requires dropout recovery programs to follow nationally-accepted, research-based best practices rather than focusing exclusively on best practices in pure distance learning, including requiring annual learning plans, provision of a local mentor who provides social advocacy, and monthly evaluations of student progress.

The American Academy:

- Currently works with Michigan school districts to give dropouts and other at-risk students within the district the flexibility, accountability, and support needed to get back in school and back on track to graduate.
- Partners with local MI districts in a budget-neutral manner and doesn't take money away from other programs or students.
- Provides certified teachers, experienced administrators, local student advocates, online mentors, and online tutors available 24x7, to support students as they work through online curriculum aligned to Michigan Merit standards.
- Follows nationally-accepted research-based best practices in dropout recovery by partnering with local school districts and providing a combination of academic and social supports for returning dropouts.